

STORIES ABOUT TOWN.

The Story of Tommy Niman and His Mother.

LYING ON COTS SIDE BY SIDE

At Christ Hospital—A Calfen the Pilot of a Santa Fe Train.

Little Tommy Niman is not yet two years old but he has suffered enough to make the look in his big blue eyes and on his thin drawn lips bear the mark of twenty.

Tommy was a happy healthy country boy less than two months ago playing around the door yard of his mother's house while his father worked among the shivering stalks of corn; his yellow hair combed away by the warm breath of a Kansas summer, laughing and toddling after the little chickens and scampering before the hissing geese to escape the dangers that the little city boy has never known.

He was plump and joyous then. His body was well and strong, but now little Tommy lies a cripple in the Christ hospital. Tommy was playing about the corn crib one day. He had climbed into the door way, which was high for him, and thought it would be fun to jump out again. The jump was fatal to his future. He fell and struck his hip upon a rock. The doctor came and said the bone was fractured. So he treated it for that. Two or three weeks went by, warily, painfully for Tommy, and there was no improvement.

His parents were poor so the county physician was called. It was now thirty-three days since the accident. The little boy was ten years older since those thirty-three days began. He was taken to Christ hospital and an attempt was made to replace the hip joint but it was a failure. The case had been allowed to run too long, and the bone would not stay while bandages could be placed.

But the operation was better tried and lost than never tried at all, and Tommy was compelled to suffer anew. That was three long weeks of agony ago and Tommy is a very little better. The pain occasioned by the operation is little less now and he does not suffer all the time.

In the cut next Tommy's lies Tommy's mother. She was ready almost to go to bed herself when she brought Tommy there. Last Sunday there were strange faces in Tommy's ward and before evening Tommy was a brother. There is crying in the room to keep Tommy awake now. The new baby has been named Guy Erwin Niman, a composite name, the Guy in honor of the night nurse and the Erwin a part of Matron McKibben's name.

There is another interesting baby case at the hospital. A little colored child of four months was brought there by its mother recently treated for a half-lip. The operation took place Saturday, and the little patient lies upon its mother's lap, a wondering, troubled look in its coal black eyes. It suffers no great pain excepting when it tries sometimes to wretch its stretched and plastered lip into a smile, and there is a pulling that quickly changes the nearing merriment to a tear that trickles slowly down the plump black cheek and bids another follow. A few weeks will end all that, however.

A CALE ON THE PILOT.

Unusual Occurrence on an East Bound Santa Fe Train.

Do you suppose that such a simple thing as a calf understands death and fears it?

As the east bound Santa Fe passenger train was tearing along on its way to Kansas City yesterday afternoon it struck a herd of cattle just after it had passed Eudora. All of them escaped uninjured except one little calf that was not yet old enough to have been forgotten by its mother. It was not thrown from the track crushed and dead. That would have been more merciful. It was simply picked up by the pilot or "cow catcher" and carried along for more than half a mile before the train was stopped to remove it.

Of course the stopping of the train in the country attracted the attention of the passengers and many of them got off and walked forward to see what the trouble was.

When the calf was lifted from the pilot it was discovered that one of its legs was broken short off and the bone was protruding from the skin.

It was crying pitifully in its bovine way, calling for its mother, suffering with pain, a pleading light in its mellow eyes. Men stood around and pitied. It seemed a shame to kill the little knot and yet there seemed to be nothing else to do. It had been removed tenderly as if it were a human child and the spectators felt as though it was.

The train was waiting while the conductor borrowed a revolver. The soon to be bereaved mother had been left half a mile behind but the mother instinct was strong in her and soon the little knot of men had to make way for her as she came bounding up bellowing loudly in mental anguish. She licked her calf and rubbed her nose against it moaning lowly when the conductor came. Who can say there was any of the brute in the demonstration?

It was all over soon and the little calf, so happy in life and health a few short moments before, lay dead and bleeding, while its mother stood above it and gazed at her feelings as best she could. She knew her child was dead.

HE TOUCHED THE BUTTON.

The Jay Did, But the Elevator Didn't Do the Same.

If you have never seen the genuine jay you should have been at the Museo Saturday night. He was there.

He wore plow shoes, entirely innocent of the least attempt at pride, a pair of overalls, a white shirt with a paper collar, a brown coat that might have been black when Esau wore it, no vest and a black straw hat. He was smooth shaven and that was the only thing smooth about him—even his voice seemed to have splinters in it. His hair might have gone in search of a brush or a comb and passed by a dozen of them. The balmey sun of Kansas had left its trade mark on his plump but honest face and all nature smiled on him. So did the boys at the door, though there was some difference in the smile.

He had his girl along and acted as though he didn't know what to do with her. So did she. There is no use to describe her. You are all acquainted with her. Neat and clean in her cheap frock and the odor of turpentine she clung conspicuously to his toil-stained hand. They held discreet for the balcony, but

the boys sent them up the gallery stairs and told him to wait on the first landing for the elevator. Five minutes elapsed and the ushers had forgotten him when he came down.

"What's the matter with yer elevator, anyhow?" he asked. "I've been ringing ten minutes."

One of the ushers sent him back to try it again and followed him.

He had been trying to ring one of the buttonlike ornaments in the woodwork.

MONTGOMERY'S RAIN MAKING.

A Story About Goodland and How the Rain Came Down.

Goodland is the birthplace almost of rainmaking and it is also the home of that gay old politician and all around good fellow, A. H. Montgomery.

There is nothing new about Mont, and this story they tell of him will prove it. Rainmaking is still an interesting subject at Goodland and Montgomery made the startling assertion one day this past summer that anybody could make rain with a little study and when challenged, declared that he could do it within twelve hours. He was naturally besieged with offers of five to one immediately, but he refused to win any money on so simple a thing and invited some of the most prominent skeptics in town to come down to his office that night and see him do it.

The boys thought of course they had a snap, and were so persistent in their offer that Montgomery finally concluded to take a few "plinks" and so put up twenty dollars against a purse of a hundred. So the story goes, anyway.

The male portion of Goodland was all impatient for the time to come, and during the afternoon Montgomery was more than busy with divers mysterious bottles and boxes and jars and a gasoline stove and some wire that he carried into his office and arranged in executive session. He was to make it rain by 2 o'clock that night.

At least a dozen of the "boys" were at the office by 8 o'clock, and there were a few "cold ones" there to drive away dull care. The weary wait began. The gasoline stove was lighted and something was boiling. The watchers got drowsy, but they did not dare to go to sleep. They were there to see how the thing was going to be done.

Finally Mont proposed a "quiet little game" to get rid of the time and it was accepted. Now if there is one thing on earth that Mont can do with astonishing success it is to hold good cards. The game went on and he was winning with alarming regularity. The crowd would be broke pretty soon and before 2 o'clock arrived Mont had nearly all the money in the crowd except the \$125 that the purseholder had and dared not bet.

There was something else doing in town that night, though, while all this was going on the boys didn't know about it. The women folks had missed their hubbies and were looking for them. It wasn't long until one of them heard the sounds of revelry by night that escaped by the half open window that Mont had left that way to let the gas out that was going to make the rain, you know, and they proceeded to give the inmates a ducking. According to the story, they hit a hose to Mont's pump that was near, and the nozzle was turned to the window.

The game inside proceeded merrily, and just as the clock struck 2, Mont was raking in the last jackpot.

Just then there came a sound of rushing water and through the window came a sudden torrent.

The boys put up their umbrellas and rushed out into the night.

"Rain, by thunder," shouted the stakeholder, and handed Mont the \$125.

Montgomery carefully turned out the stove, threw the bottles and boxes into the alley and went home to snore peacefully.

A SLENDID HOME.

E. P. Kellam's Home on Topeka Avenue a Magnificent One.

Probably the handsomest residence that has been or is being built in Topeka this season is that of E. P. Kellam at 405 Topeka avenue. T. H. Lescher is the architect, and his son G. M. Lescher put up the wood work, while Dunn & Fritz held the contract for the stone and brick work. The cost of the house will be about \$15,000.

It is being built in what is called the modern colonial style. The basement is a high one and of Chase county sand stone, rough finished. The first story is of brick, and the remaining story and a half is shingled.

A large veranda 12x43 will adorn the front, on the north end of it being the carriage entrance, the drive running along the north side of the house. The reception hall will also be large, the plans showing it to be 17x25 feet. On the south side of the building on the first floor will be a parlor, sitting room and bed room. On the north side, the dining room and a large kitchen. There is also a bath room on the same floor.

There are stairs both front and back and in the second story are six big bed rooms, nine closets and another lavatory. The attic is as large as most folks' upstairs.

The house will be lighted with gas and have, of course, water in every room. It will be a handsome residence and will be occupied before winter.

IT DIDN'T WORK.

St. Mary's Footracer Got All the Cash of Some Topeka Fellows.

A story is being told on the street today that is good even if it should happen to be stretched a little.

It is well known in Kansas sporting circles that St. Mary's has a crack footracer in the person of a young man named Leo and St. Mary's people are always ready to back him to the extent of their last crust. A lot of real shrewd Topeka sports knew this, and they concluded that there was a chance to get rich and they would grab it.

THE CORNER STONE LAID.

About Three Thousand People Witnessed the Masonic Ceremony.

The ceremony of laying the corner stone of the new Shawnee county court house attracted a crowd Saturday afternoon that filled every desirable point of observation in the vicinity of Fifth and Van Buren streets. The ceremony was witnessed by no less than 3,000 people. The ceremonies were impressive, and no accidents marred the event.

The opening address of Chief Justice Horton was a masterly one. He said in conclusion:

"This building, now in the process of erection, will be to us something more than a mere structure of wood, brick, iron and marble. It will represent something more than a convenient place for the transaction of public business and a safe deposit for the public records. When completed, it will be a place where the antagonisms of society will meet, where vice will be shown to be most active, and frailty the most conspicuous, where from time to time, human beings, coming from all the diversified pursuits of life, will throng in countless numbers; some to have justice awarded them, some to attempt to inflict its opposite, and others, an unwilling group, to expiate offenses. But it will represent something more than a building suitable for the trial of civil and criminal causes—it will represent a sentiment worthy of our serious attention. * * * A court house when completed stands for the majesty of the law. It is a temple of justice. With it are associated loyalty to the government and obedience to law."

J. Lee Knight gave a historical sketch of Shawnee county in which a description of her temples of justice was the principal feature. The old court house cost about \$75,000. Of the new one Capt. Knight said: "The original contract price of the building was \$127,000. The change from limestone to granite, backed up with hard-burned brick in the basement story, has added about \$84,000, and the cost of the three extra lots about \$9,000 more, making in all a total of a trifle over \$145,000. We have no reason to believe that any other changes involving extra costs will be found necessary, but that the entire structure, completed and furnished ready for use, will fall below the \$150,000 appropriated to pay for it."

A DRUNKEN JAMBOREE.

That's What It Was. Notwithstanding Messrs. Payne & Thompson.

Messrs. Payne & Thompson, agents of the Masonic building, publish a card in the morning paper, in which they say that no escapade took place in the Masonic building as was described under the head of "Who Were They? A Drunken Jamboree Reported in the Masonic Building."

We don't know what sources of information Messrs. Payne & Thompson have explored, but the jamboree is now in possession of all the facts and can give them publication if necessary. Two prominent business men of Topeka were in the Masonic building the night in question, accompanied by two women. The women were attired in men's clothes, and all four were drunk and making the disturbance that aroused the neighbors outside. The young woman who was injured, sprained her ankle. The whole affair was disgraceful in the extreme, and if Messrs. Payne & Thompson do not cease stirring it up, they will cause a great fright in certain circles in this town for fear the whole affair will come to light.

DIDN'T HAVE TO MEET.

The City So Healthy That the Health Board Hasn't Met Once.

"I am of the opinion," said Dr. L. H. Munn, president of the city board of health, "that there has never been a season with so little sickness as this in Topeka. The city has been extremely healthy and we have not had a single formal meeting of the board of health. Under the present law the secretary of the board has all the power, the other two members being simply advisory, and it is only when the secretary wishes to consult with them that the other members are necessary. There has been no epidemic of diphtheria," continued Dr. Munn, "as there has been in many other cities, and some of the few cases we have had were probably really not diphtheria at all. There has been an occasional fever, but very few serious cases."

ALMOST A THEFT.

Officer Capron Rescues a Horse and Buggy from the Clutches of a Thief.

An attempt was made by some unknown man to steal a horse and buggy from a stable on Quincy street between Third and Fourth Sunday morning, between two and three o'clock. Officer Capron heard something fall on the paved alley there and ran to see what the trouble was. He saw a man jump out of the loft door and run through a hole in the board fence. He gave chase but could not find the man. The fellow had the horse out of the stable, run the buggy out and was getting ready to change the pole in the buggy and put shafts in when the officer appeared. It was the noise made by the shafts being thrown from the loft that attracted the officer.

WHY HE DIDN'T PAY.

Boston Davis Was Not Able to Pay the \$500 Alimony.

Santa Fe Engineer Boston C. Davis was taken into the district court Saturday to show cause why he should not be sentenced for contempt. When the court granted his wife, Berna Davis, a divorce the alimony was fixed at \$500.

Davis hasn't paid it yet, and his wife has complained. Mr. Davis said he hadn't paid the sum because he did not have the money and couldn't borrow it, as he expected. He expressed a willingness to give her a stated portion of his wages every month until the order of the court was satisfied.

BLACKSMITHS WORKED.

A Smooth Fellow Who Swindled Union Pacific Towns This Summer.

A smooth young man who introduced himself as H. Leblanche, representing the "Leblanche Wood and Iron House" of New York, seems to have succeeded in defrauding a good many blacksmiths in the smaller towns along the Union Pacific out of small sums of money each.

He had with him printed order blanks on which he took their orders for goods in his line. He would sell a man \$5 or \$10 worth of goods and then collect a couple of dollars in advance on it. He was through there last July and has not been heard of since.

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THREE DOORS ABOVE TRANSFER STATION.

SNAP SHOTS AT HOME NEWS.

There are 390 pupils attending the high school.

Many people wore winter wraps to church yesterday.

This is the kind of weather that breeds old fashioned ague.

Jack Frost will soon chase the ice cream wagons home.

O. H. Baker is confined to his room with an attack of malaria.

Rev. Dr. Alderson and Rev. C. M. Sheldon exchanged pulpits yesterday.

The Populists have arranged a rally to take place at Auburn on October 9.

There are now sixteen patients in Christ hospital, eight of them private cases.

Carrie Chapman Catt will make a suffrage speech in Topeka next Monday, October 1.

The North Topeka Presbyterian church has been without a pastor since the first of March.

The grand commandery, colored Knights Templar, will meet in Topeka October 29.

A North Topeka man with three initials had his pocket picked of \$3 at the races last week.

People who rode out in the country against the breeze yesterday afternoon, found out that it was chilly.

The state university football team will play the one from Doane college at Lawrence, on Saturday, October 13th.

Judge A. H. Vance and Mrs. Bina A. Otis are billed to make suffrage speeches at the Chase county fair on Thursday.

Geo. R. Peck is expected to lecture before the Shawnee county teachers association some time during the winter.

Rex. Sloan, candidate for representative, is going to buy a horse and buggy. Maybe he's fishing for the young lady vote.

Congressman Charles Curtis addressed the colored old soldiers at their encampment on Saturday, October 13th.

tion celebration at Hamilton hall Saturday night.

A wheel was torn off a buggy at the corner of Sixth street and Kansas avenue Saturday night about 9 o'clock. No one was hurt.

The New York Sun says: "Topeka is a peculiar city. A boy broke into the Baptist church and stole the minister's baptismal boots."

C. H. Holcraft, contractor of the new building at the state university, says none of the walls will have to be torn down as reported.

The local Republican clubs have all been invited to meet with the North Topeka club tonight. A. H. Vance and D. C. Tillotson are to be the speakers.

The wild morning glories are now blossoming in profusion and some fields which are almost covered with them present a beautiful variegated appearance.

The corner-stone of the court house contains 191 papers and documents, which includes nearly everything in the county except the governor's tramp circular.

H. H. Carlon, the printer who fell down the stairs of the Press office two weeks ago and fractured his skull, is well enough and was discharged from Christ hospital today.

Rev. Dr. Embree dislikes to have his church members attend when he preaches and stay away when somebody else takes his place, although they suppose it is a compliment.

Some young folks who saw a ghost in a yard on Jackson street last night, discovered this morning it was only newspapers which had been carefully wrapped around flowers.

The Rock Island ticket office at Atchison is closed because the river has washed the tracks away. It will remain closed three weeks and the agent, T. L. King, is home in Topeka.

On the morning that Wm. McKinley speaks in Topeka, October 3d, the Rock Island will run a special excursion train

from St. Joseph, leaving there at six o'clock a. m. and arriving here at 9:15.

J. Lee Knight was struck on the side of his head by the fist of a man who wanted 50 cents Saturday evening. Mr. Knight says the affair took place on Kansas avenue in front of his office as he was getting out of his buggy.

A bicycle rider who has had some trouble about it himself, says that if people want to avoid being run into by wheels they must not try to dodge them. The bicyclist will dodge you if you will let him. Don't dodge the same way he does.

A local physician who divides his time between the practice of his profession and politics, started to write a paper a few days ago on "the necessity of vaccination," and this is the way he started it: "By careful and proper vaccination politics can be eradicated."

A committee composed of Prof. W. M. Stryker of Great Bend, S. M. Cook of Chapman and H. M. Coulter of Norton, has been appointed to prepare the program for the meeting of the State Teachers' association, to be held in Topeka during the holidays.

Hornor.

Topeka Coal Co.

We put on new neckbands on shirts, Peerless Steam Laundry, 114 and 116 West Eighth street.

\$2.50 Per Ton. Screened Lump Coal, Topeka Coal Co.

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Hornor.

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